

# ***TOWN COUNCIL***

## ***WEEKLY STATUS REPORT***

October 20, 2016

*m20* Volume 24, No. 42

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, Groton Resource Recovery Authority Special Meeting, 6:00 p.m., Town Hall Annex, CR1
- Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup>, Town Council Committee of the Whole Special Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Town Hall Annex, CR1

### **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION INITIATIVE**

Groton Human Services has been notified that the Groton Education Association recently authorized a \$500.00 donation to the department's annual Child Abuse Prevention Initiative (CAPI). The donation will help the department maintain its CAPI activities in 2017. Groton Human Services is also hoping to receive a grant for CAPI from the Community Foundation's Women and Girls Fund. The grants will enable the department to conduct its CAPI poster contest for Groton third graders, hold its CAPI Awards event and produce a 2018 "Drawing Wisdom From Kids" calendar. In the past, monies for CAPI came solely from the Human Services Assistance (Perkins) Fund.

### **HOLIDAY PREPARATIONS UNDERWAY**

Sign-ups for the Town's annual holiday distributions of food and toys will begin on October 24<sup>th</sup> at Groton Human Services and will continue through November 23<sup>rd</sup> or until the maximum number of 500 households for each distribution is reached. The Thanksgiving distribution will be held on Friday, November 18<sup>th</sup> and the December holiday distribution will be held on Friday, December 23<sup>rd</sup>. Both distributions will run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Donations of frozen turkeys and canned, non-perishable food may be dropped off at the Human Services building Monday through Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Please see Attachment 1 for a list of items needed.

The Department is also accepting donations of new toys, books, pajamas, hats, scarves, gloves and mittens for children. Other suggested gift donations for older children include gift cards to local restaurants, coffee shops, stores and movie theater passes. Cash donations for the Groton Food Locker or the Human Services

Discretionary Fund are also welcome. Donation checks should be made out to either the Groton Food Locker or Groton Human Services.

Groton Human Services will also be offering an “Adopt-A-Family” program, wherein interested local individuals, businesses or community organizations are given detailed information regarding a specific family’s wish list and then make purchases for that family. Volunteers are always welcome to help with the distributions. Anyone interested in volunteering should call Groton Human Services in advance to determine what day they will be assisting to avoid under or over staffing.

Please contact Groton Human Services at 860-441-6760 for more information.

## INVISIBLE FAMILIES: HOMELESS FAMILIES IN AMERICA

On Tuesday, October 25<sup>th</sup> Richard Schweid, author of *Invisible Nation: Homeless Families in America*, will present a talk about his book at the Groton Public Library from 7:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Mr. Schweid will be joined by Jeffrey Anderson, Executive Director of MASH, Mystic Area Shelter and Hospitality. MASH serves families with children who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Mr. Schweid’s book will be available for sale courtesy of Bank Square Books.

More than 2.5 million children are homeless in the United States every year. In every state, children are living packed in with relatives, or in cars, or motel rooms, or emergency shelters, the only constant being too many people in too little space. Mr. Schweid visited five major U.S. cities to research his book. He will discuss the historical context of family homelessness as well as what can be done in the future to alleviate this widespread, although often hidden, poverty. Mr. Anderson will speak about family homelessness from a local perspective.

Please contact the Groton Public Library at 860-441-6750 for more information.

## ATTACHMENTS

1. Attachment 2 is a thank you letter from Katherine Brown to Dispatcher Cody Morgan for his service to the Town.
2. Attachment 3 is an email from the Connecticut Office of Tourism announcing the working partnership with the Connecticut Metro Chamber of Commerce and other regional partner destination organizations to aid in regional tourism

marketing across the state. The Connecticut Office of Tourism will also be conducting a series of “Listening Tour” meetings in the next few weeks. For more information, please contact Rosemary at [rosemary.bove@ct.gov](mailto:rosemary.bove@ct.gov) or call her at 860-256-2725.

3. Attachment 4 is an invitation from the State of Connecticut for the State Water Plan Phase Public Meeting on October 25<sup>th</sup> from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments, 5 Connecticut Avenue, Norwich. Please see the attachment for more information.
4. Attachment 5 is an invitation from Safe Futures for the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration on November 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. at Langley’s Restaurant, Great Neck Country Club, 28 Lamphere Road, Waterford.

## MONTHLY MANAGEMENT REPORTS

### 1. Library (September):

- One hundred and ten passport applications were processed at the Passport Day event on September 10<sup>th</sup>.
- The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Local History Fair took place on September 24<sup>th</sup> with over 200 people in attendance.
- Thirty-six people booked appointments with Book-a-Tech, a popular new program that allows patrons to meet with a tech-savvy staff member for 20 minutes of one-on-one technology assistance.
- The Library renovation project is underway with the demolish phase completed and the framing of the interior walls placed.

Attachments  
MRO/lh

# Happy Thanksgiving



Groton Human Services will be providing Thanksgiving Food Baskets to 500 Groton Families in need this year. If you, your family, or your co-workers would like to help, **THE FOLLOWING ITEMS ARE NEEDED:**

Frozen Turkeys  
Canned Fruits  
Canned Vegetables  
Instant Mashed Potatoes  
Canned Yams  
Stuffing Mix  
Cranberry Sauce  
Gravy  
Muffin/Bread Mixes  
Jell-O  
Dessert Items  
Cereal  
Pancake Mix

Monetary Donations for the purchase  
of Turkey Gift Checks

Donations should be dropped off by November 14th  
Groton Human Services, 2 Fort Hill Road, Groton, Monday - Friday  
8:30 AM—4:30 PM. Please call 860-441-6760 for more info.  
Checks can be made payable to ***Groton Food Locker.***  
~ Thank You for your Support ~

Dispatcher Morgan;

10/14/16

I wanted to ensure you knew how much your service meant to my family last night.

You were such a calming voice in a stressful and scary situation. You were professional, kind, reassuring, and compassionate.

While it might just be another 911 call to you, please know it was everything to me. Thank you for helping me keep my family safe, we are grateful for your service to our town!

-Katherine Brown

**From:** Randy Fiveash [<mailto:ct.travelinfo@ct.gov>]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 2:28 PM  
**To:** Bresnayan, Nicki  
**Subject:** Regional Tourism Coordination

Weekly Status Report  
October 20, 2016  
ATTACHMENT 3

# Connecticut<sup>®</sup> Tourism Business Partners

Dear Tourism Partners,

As all of us are aware, the realities of a tighter state budget require us to think differently about the strategy of marketing our great state and its many attributes. The Connecticut Office of Tourism is continually striving to create innovative ways to ensure that the entire visitor industry of our state is served, no matter what region or destination, through partnerships within our tourism industry.

With the defunding of the regional tourism districts, we are pleased to announce that we will be working in partnership with the Connecticut Metro Chambers of Commerce and other regional partner destination organizations, to aid regional tourism marketing across the state. This partnership-based plan in regional tourism marketing will play a critical role, both to maintain close relationships and foster new tourism and cultural partnerships, with our many tourism partners, while supporting each area of Connecticut.

We believe this is a viable and responsible plan to put a spotlight on the assets of each of the regions of Connecticut which will serve the many important visitor industry partners within each region. Additionally, we believe that the best path forward, given limited fiscal resources, is to bring the regional tourism marketing efforts under the umbrella of the DECD/Connecticut Office of Tourism, with robust coordination with local partners.

The Connecticut Office of Tourism will be convening a series of "Listening Tour" meetings, over the next few weeks, throughout the state, to get feedback and give you more information about this new partnership effort. Rosemary Bove, in our Office of Tourism, along with myself, will staff this effort and ensure its successful integration into the work product of the Office of Tourism. Rosemary will be scheduling the meetings and sending out the notices about the upcoming statewide schedule. You can reach Rosemary at [rosemary.bove@ct.gov](mailto:rosemary.bove@ct.gov) or 860-256-2725.

Thank you for your continued support. We look forward to seeing you at a "Listening Tour" meeting very soon.

Thanks,

Randy  
Randy Fiveash  
Director Connecticut Office of Tourism  
(860) 256-2769  
[Randall.Fiveash@ct.gov](mailto:Randall.Fiveash@ct.gov)

**Hylton, Lisa**

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**Subject:** FW: CT State Water Plan Phase I Public Meetings

**From:** Stevenson, Lori A. [<mailto:Lori.Stevenson@ct.gov>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 11:58 AM

**Cc:** Wittchen, Bruce; LeVasseur, David

**Subject:** CT State Water Plan Phase I Public Meetings

***Invitation to Participate in Connecticut's State Water Plan***

Come share your voice in the early stages of developing Connecticut's State Water Plan at any one of three public meetings in October. The ongoing drought reminds us why responsible and collaborative stewardship of our water resources is so important.

The State Water Plan will provide the framework for managing Connecticut's water into the future, and help balance the way it meets all of our needs as new climate trends emerge and new needs develop. The Plan will address the quality and quantity of water for drinking, ecology, recreation, industry, agriculture, energy, and wastewater assimilation.

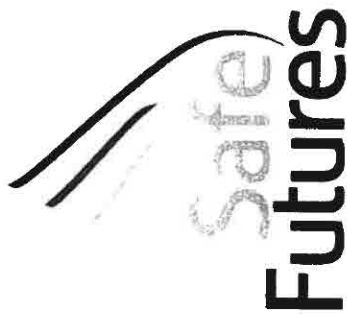
These public meetings will provide a forum to learn about the planning process, the goals of the plan, and future water management strategies that will be evaluated. They will also provide the public with opportunities to engage in dialogue with state officials and project consultants, ask questions, and discuss issues. The first set of meetings will be held on consecutive days in October 2016, in three different areas of the state. The content of these first three meetings will be the same each day in order to spread awareness and encourage broad statewide engagement. There will be three additional public meetings in the next phase of the project, during the winter and spring of 2017, sequenced in parallel with a progressive series of workshops with project stakeholders.

***The first three meetings will be held at the following times and locations:***

- *Tuesday, October 25: 6:00 – 8:00 PM Southeastern CT Council of Governments, 5 Connecticut Avenue, Norwich, CT.*
- *Wednesday, October 26: 1:00 – 3:00 PM Hearing Room 1 at PURA, 10 Franklin Square, New Britain, CT.*
- *Thursday, October 27: 6:00 – 8:00 PM Room 205 of the Southbury Town Hall, 501 Main Street South, Southbury, CT.*



*As a special friend of Safe Futures,  
you are invited to the launch of our  
40th anniversary celebrations.*



**Langley's**

at the Great Neck Country Club  
28 Lamphere Road  
Waterford, Connecticut

**Thursday, November 10th**

Reception begins at 5:30 p.m.

Presentation and Champagne Toast at 6:15 p.m.

*Festive hors d'oeuvres will be served.*

**RSVP by November 3rd:**

Amanda Boaz

(860) 447-0366 x220

aboaz@SafeFuturesCT.org

**SAFE FUTURES**

**40TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE**

Andrew Barker  
Elsie Childs  
Michael L. Graves  
K. George Mooney  
Laura Mooney  
Roger Parkman  
Lisa Picarazzi  
Wendy Riches  
Brad Sisley  
Maggie White  
Steve White

Catherine Zeiner, *Executive Director*  
Karen Camboulives, *Director of Finance*  
Emma Palzere-Rae, *Director of Development & Communications*  
Kathie Verano, *Director of Client Services*

*For 40 years, Safe Futures has  
saved lives, restored hope and changed the future  
for those impacted by domestic violence and sexual assault  
throughout southeastern Connecticut.  
Please join us as we reflect on the past and look toward our future.*

Safe Futures  
16 Jay Street  
New London, CT 06320  
(860) 447-0366  
[www.SafeFuturesCT.org](http://www.SafeFuturesCT.org)

**24-Hour Hotline: (860) 701-6000**



**Groton Public Library**  
**Monthly Report**  
**September 2016**

**Library Activities**

- Selected members of the library staff will receive training for issuing passports on November 3. 110 passport applications were processed at the Passport Day event held on September 10.
- The annual joint meeting of the boards of the Groton, Mystic & Noank and Bill Memorial libraries took place on September 22. Mark Oefinger spoke about the "state of the Town."
- The 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Local History Fair took place on September 24. 22 historical organizations participated and over 200 people attended.
- Book-a-Tech is a popular new program that allows patrons to book an appointment with a tech-savvy staff member for 20 minutes of one-on-one technology help. 36 people made appointments in September.
- The Library Director attended the following meetings:
  - IT Steering Committee, September 9
  - CT Humanities, CT Center for the Book Advisory Committee, September 12
  - Senior Center/Library sign, September 14
  - SECT Libraries/Garde Wally Lamb collaboration, September 15
  - Budget preparation, September 20
  - SIRSI quarterly teleconference, September 21
  - Town insurance safety review, September 27
  - Management Team steering committee, September 27
  - IT Steering Committee, September 28
  - CT Sub Century Executive Committee, September 30

**Renovation Project**

- The Library renovation project is underway. The demolition phase is completed and the framing for the interior walls is in place. Meetings with the Town, the architect and the contractor are scheduled every two weeks.

**GROTON PUBLIC LIBRARY - MONTHLY STATISTICS**

	SEP 16	SEP 15
Number of Library Visits	19569	19030
Circulation Statistics		
Total	25093	27230
Adult print	12151	13057
Adult nonprint	5092	5384
Children print	6063	6853
Children nonprint	937	1142
e Books and magazines	622	600
Downloadable audio	216	185
Downloadable video	1	9
Nonresident usage	6750	7683
Internet Use		
Public computers	4228	5193
Wireless	1460	1655
Public/Wireless Computer Prints	10026	15160
Web/Social Media Activity		
Library Home Page	17010	22585
Groton History Online	3163	2532
GMTV	222	621
Facebook Friends	1942	1551
Interlibrary Loans		
Items received	311	371
Items loaned	382	467
New Patron Registration		
Adult	108	140
Children	41	27
Community Services		
Programs/Attendance	68/1461	72/1550
Adult	39/753	38/525
Children	21/561	30/969
Young adult	8/102	4/56
Meeting Room		
Nonprofit	159	155
Profit	0	0
Materials Added to Collection		
Adult print	546	637
Adult nonprint	78	61
Children print	192	225
Children nonprint	13	8
Video Services		
Programs produced	11	13
Programming hours aired	388	462
Ads on messaging system	73	45